

Chemical Weapons Improved Response Program



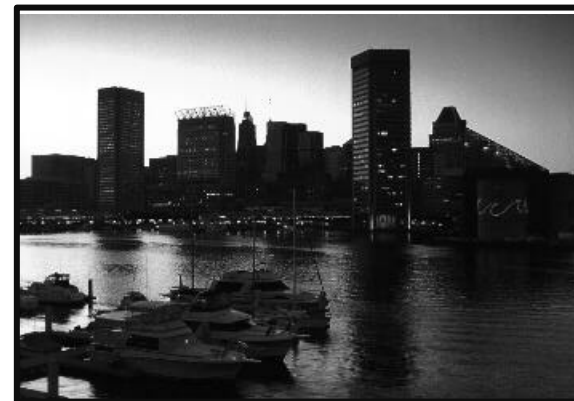
Report Documentation Page

Report Date 30Apr2001	Report Type N/A	Dates Covered (from... to) -
Title and Subtitle Chemical Weapons Improved Response Program Overview	Contract Number	
	Grant Number	
	Program Element Number	
Author(s) Fedele, Paul D.	Project Number	
	Task Number	
	Work Unit Number	
Performing Organization Name(s) and Address(es) US Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command	Performing Organization Report Number	
Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Name(s) and Address(es) NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) 211 Wilson Blvd, STE. 400 Arlington, VA 22201-3061	Sponsor/Monitor's Acronym(s)	
	Sponsor/Monitor's Report Number(s)	
Distribution/Availability Statement Approved for public release, distribution unlimited		
Supplementary Notes Proceedings from the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Terrorism Preparedness & Response Conference & Exhibition, 30 April - 2 May 2001 Sponsored by NDIA		
Abstract		
Subject Terms		
Report Classification unclassified	Classification of this page unclassified	
Classification of Abstract unclassified	Limitation of Abstract UU	
Number of Pages 20		



US Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command Chemical Weapons Improved Response Program Overview

Dr. Paul D. Fedele
Chief Scientist, CWIRP
pdfedele@apgea.army.mil
410-436-2962



US Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command

- **Department of Defense experts on chemical and biological warfare since 1917**
- **Develop, acquire, and sustain chemical and biological defense technology, systems and services**
- **Also provide:**
 - **Chemical weapons storage and demilitarization**
 - **Associated environmental remediation**
 - **Chemical weapons treaty compliance**



Chemical Weapons Improved Response Program

- Designed to improve response posture for acts of terrorism using chemical weapons
- Focuses on high priority responder needs
 - Think tank approach
 - Conducts technical and operational investigations with associated exercises to insure valid solutions
- Applications to both rural and metropolitan communities



Chemical Weapons Improved Response Program

- SBCCOM possesses the technical expertise in WMD
- Local involvement essential
- Partnership between federal, state, and local experts



Chemical Weapons Improved Response Program Program Approach

**Established four functional groups to
focus on key issues**





CWIRP Functional Groups Health & Safety



Mission

Focus on the issues that impact the well-being of the community at large and the challenges associated with maximizing the impact of local and regional public health and medical resources.

- **Baltimore City HD**
- **USPHS**
- **MD DHMH**
- **MIEMSS**
- **Baltimore City School Police**
- **American Red Cross**
- **Johns Hopkins Hospital**
- **Franklin Square Hospital**
- **St. Agnes Hospital**
- **Disaster Planning International**



CWIRP Functional Groups Law Enforcement



Mission

Enhance preparedness by identifying, prioritizing, and addressing the challenges facing law enforcement that are unique to a chemical terrorist incident.

- **FBI**
- **APG CID**
- **MD State Police**
- **MD State Fire Marshall**
- **MD Trans. Authority**
- **Mass Transit Admin.**
- **Ocean City Police**
- **Baltimore City**
- **Baltimore County**
- **District of Columbia**
- **Harford County**
- **Howard County**
- **Montgomery County**
- **New York City**



CWIRP Functional Groups Emergency Response



Mission

Identify and develop ways to improve the response capabilities of the first responders to manage the consequences of a chemical terrorist event.

- **Montgomery County**
- **Aberdeen Proving Ground**
- **Ft. Detrick, MD**
- **Baltimore City**
- **Baltimore County**
- **Boston, MA**
- **District of Columbia**
- **Harford County**
- **Howard County**
- **Philadelphia, PA**
- **Washington County**
- **Anchorage, AK**



CWIRP Functional Groups Emergency Management



Mission

Address issues and make recommendations designed to enhance the responder and emergency management communities' planning, resourcing and coordinating capability.

- **Baltimore County**
- **MEMA**
- **Baltimore City**
- **Carroll County**
- **Howard County**
- **American Red Cross**

CWIRP Accomplishments

Exercises:

- **Eleven table top exercises**
- **Two functional exercises**

Technical studies:

- **Firefighter PPE Assessment for Quick Rescue**
- **Positive Pressure Ventilation Studies**
- **Mass Casualty Decontamination Techniques**
- **Law Enforcement / EMS PPE Assessments**
- **Protective Clothing analysis for SWAT Teams**
- **Alternate Chemical Casualty Medical Care Facility**
- **Chemical Mass Fatality Management**
- **Law Enforcement Protective Clothing Report**
- **Fire Service Emergency Response Video**

Technical Initiatives

Firefighter Protective Clothing Assessment

- **Evaluate the degree of protection against chemical agents offered by standard firefighter gear during quick rescue operations**
- **Conducted tests with local firefighters at SBCCOM test facilities using standard DoD test methodologies**
- **Developing guidelines that can be used by the Incident Commander to make risk-based decisions if level A protection is not immediately available**



Technical Initiatives

Positive Pressure Ventilation

- Evaluate the use of PPV fans as a mitigation tool to quickly reduce contamination levels in a contaminated building
- Determine the amount of additional protection afforded firefighters conducting quick rescue
- PPV reduces vapor concentrations of agent by 50%-70%



Technical Initiatives

Protective Clothing for Police Officers

- **Recommended a range of low cost protective clothing options for personnel operating on the perimeter of an incident**
- **Threat of contamination comes from wind shifts, cross-contamination from victims, and secondary releases**
- **Included gas mask evaluations, chemical clothing tests and weapons firing**
- **Concerns included cost, training and maintenance requirements**



Technical Initiatives

Protective Clothing for SWAT Teams

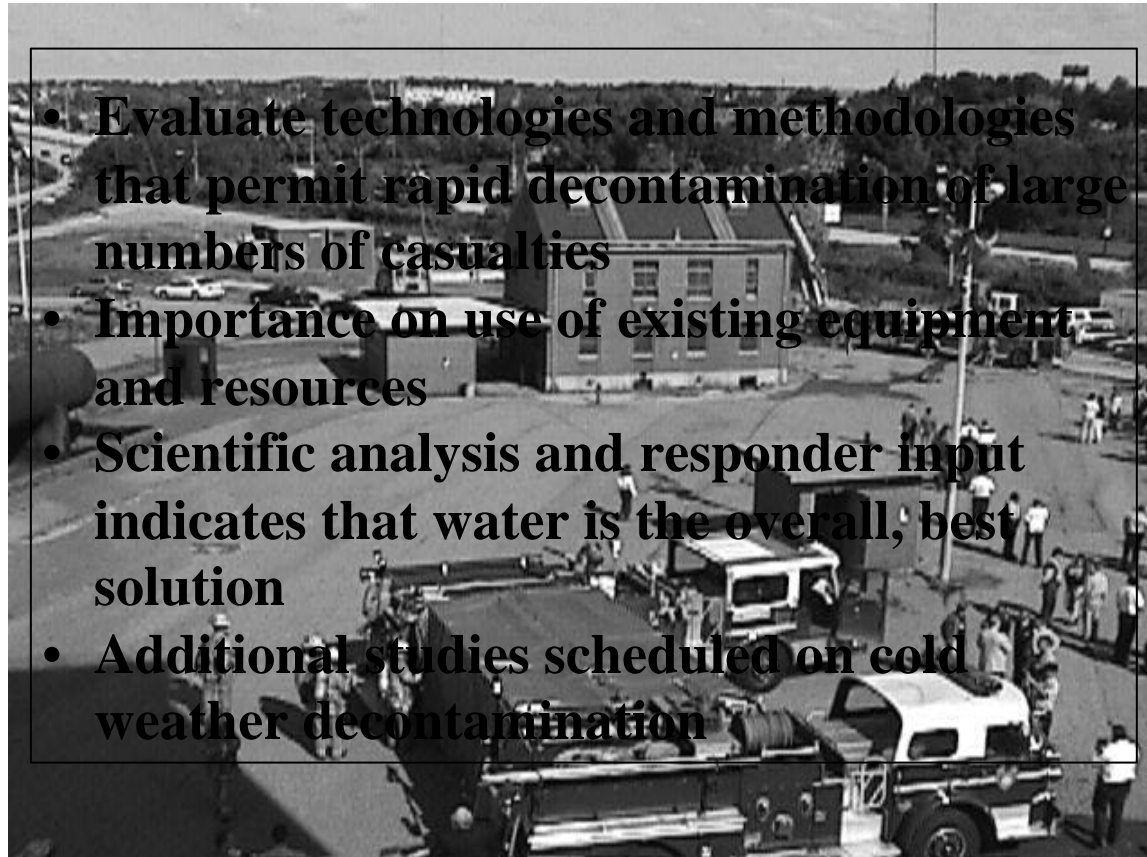
- **Evaluated available protective clothing suitable to a SWAT team**
- **Protection from higher levels of contamination are needed**
- **Focus on protection afforded while using special weapons, equipment and tactics**



Technical Initiatives

Mass Casualty Decontamination

- **Evaluate technologies and methodologies that permit rapid decontamination of large numbers of casualties**
- **Importance on use of existing equipment and resources**
- **Scientific analysis and responder input indicates that water is the overall, best solution**
- **Additional studies scheduled on cold weather decontamination**



Technical Initiatives

Medical/Health Response

- **Develop a medical response plan to handle the potentially catastrophic number of casualties from a chemical terrorism incident**
- **Establish Off-site Triage, Treatment and Transport Center to**
 - **Manage the non-critically ill and psychosomatic**
 - **Allows established infrastructure to maintain status quo**
- **Outline chemical fatality management guidelines**



CWIRP Future 2001 and Beyond



- **Domestic Preparedness transitions from Department of Defense (DoD) to Department of Justice (DoJ)**
- **Office of Justice Programs continues civilian response improvement.**
- **SBCCOM maintains support and focuses on DoD military installation protection and response preparedness.**



Further CW IRP Information

**Further information is available on line,
under CWIRP at the web site:**

<http://www2.sbccom.army.mil/hld/index.htm>

**Dr. Paul D. Fedele
Chief Scientist, CWIRP
pdfedele@apgea.army.mil
410-436-2962**

